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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

FEDERAL HORTICULTURAL BOARD.

C. L. Marlatt, *Chairman;* W. A. Orton, Geo. B. Sudworth, W. D. Hunter, Karl F. Kellerman.
R. C. Althouse, *Secretary.*

SERVICE AND REGULATORY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

FEBRUARY, 1917.

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LETTER TO SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY RECOMMENDING THE PLACING OF RESTRICTIONS ON CUT FLOWERS FROM CUBA.

January 26, 1917.

The honorable The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir: It has been brought to the attention of this department by the State Plant Board of Florida that there is considerable danger of importing plant pests with cut flowers, especially roses, from Cuba. The rules and regulations under the Plant Quarantine Act of August 20, 1912, governing the importation into the United States of all plants covered under the definition of nursery stock in this act prohibit the entry of such stock unless a permit therefor has been granted by this department and unless the invoice is accompanied by an original certificate and each container bears a copy certificate issued by a duly authorized official of the country from which it is exported, stating that the nursery stock covered by the certificate has been thoroughly inspected by him or under his direction, and found or believed to be free from injurious plant diseases and insect pests. Cut roses and other cut flowers of woody perennial plants are included in the definition of nursery stock. You are therefore respectfully requested to issue the necessary instructions to customs officials in the State of Florida to refuse entry to roses and other cut flowers of woody perennial plants, except under permit and upon compliance with the other conditions governing entry as set forth above.

There is no objection to allowing passengers from Havana to bring cut flowers aboard ship, but it is recommended that the inspectors at Havana be instructed to notify passengers that such flowers must not be landed; and that the inspectors at the Florida ports be instructed not to allow the flowers to be brought ashore. The horticultural inspectors of the State of Florida, who are also collaborators of this department, stationed at the various Florida ports of entry, will be glad to assist in the enforcement of these instructions.

Very respectfully,

D. F. Houston,
Secretary.

INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED BY TREASURY DEPARTMENT TO FLORIDA CUSTOMS OFFICERS RELATIVE TO CUT FLOWERS FROM CUBA.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, February 7, 1917.

The COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS,
Tampa, Fla.

SIR: I inclose herewith for your information and guidance a copy of a letter received from the Department of Agriculture under date of the 26th ultimo, calling attention to the fact that the State Plant Board of Florida has stated that there is considerable danger of importing plant pests with cut flowers, especially roses, from Cuba.

You will, as suggested by the Secretary of Agriculture, refuse entry to roses and other cut flowers of woody perennial plants except under permit and upon compliance with the other conditions governing entry, as set forth in his letter.

It will be noted that there is no objection to allowing passengers from Havana to bring cut flowers aboard ship, but it is recommended that the passengers be notified that such flowers must not be landed.

Respectfully,

(Signed) JAMES W. BEVANS,
Acting Chief Division of Customs.

DISPOSAL OF LEAKAGE OR WASTAGE FROM FOREIGN COTTON.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
FEDERAL HORTICULTURAL BOARD,
Washington, D. C., February 8, 1917.

DEAR SIRS: The attention of the board has been called to the very considerable amount of leakage or wastage from foreign cottons in the process of unloading and handling on the docks, transportation to fumigation plants, and in storage pending and subsequent to fumigation prior to distribution.

Such waste is especially noteworthy in the case of Mexican cotton. This cotton is inadequately hooped with iron over an insufficient wrapper of coarse sisal fiber netting, in most instances but a few shreds of this netting remaining. The bales themselves become merely ragged masses of cotton of such character that the wastage in handling is constant and enormous. In view of the fact that Mexico is now known to be infested with the pink boll worm, this condition of the bales adds a very large new element of risk. The instructions here given apply, however, to all wastage from imported cottons.

Permittees and persons in charge of fumigation plants are, therefore, urged to use greater care in the handling of cotton to avoid waste, and are instructed to provide for the prompt and regular collection of such waste on the docks or other places of unloading and between such places of landing or unloading and the fumigation plants, or places of temporary storage in such plants or elsewhere, including the sweeping of cars and cleanup of outdoor areas where such wastage may occur in the process of handling, and all wastage in fumigating plants.

If such foreign cotton is stored with domestic cotton in licensed warehouses pending fumigation or prior to distribution, all the wastage from such storage rooms, both domestic and foreign, must necessarily be treated as foreign cotton and become subject to the restrictions herein set forth.

All such wastage in whole or in part from foreign cotton must be properly bagged or baled, and if any of it is from unfumigated foreign cotton such unfumigated waste

must be promptly fumigated. The bales, bags, or other containers must be plainly marked with such numbers and marks as will distinguish such containers from each other and indicate the fumigating plant or place of collection and the nature of the contents as such collected waste.

The notification of the collection of such waste must be made, with full description, corresponding to the notice of arrival of imported cotton (Regulation 6), to the inspector at the port involved, one of these notices to be retained by the inspector of the Department of Agriculture and the other to be forwarded by him to Washington.

Notification of shipment or consignment of such waste must be made in the same manner as is required in Regulation 8 as to imported cotton, except that the number of the permit and date of entry will not be required, but in all other respects such cotton must conform to the rules and regulations governing the distribution of imported cotton to licensees.

In accordance with instructions earlier issued by the board, lighters, cars, trucks, or other means of conveyance used for the transportation of cotton from landing docks to fumigation plants must immediately upon unloading at the plant be thoroughly swept out and the sweepings either burned or collected and fumigated as outlined in this letter.

Compliance with the conditions herein outlined is to be made under the supervision and instruction as to details of the inspectors of the board.

Yours very truly,

C. L. Marlatt,
Chairman of Board.

SUCH BALING AS WILL PREVENT WASTAGE REQUIRED OF MEXICAN COTTON.

United States Department of Agriculture,
Federal Horticultural Board,
Washington, D. C., February 20, 1917.

Dear Sir: The attention of the board has been called to the very considerable amount of leakage or wastage from Mexican cotton in the process of unloading and handling on the docks, transporting to fumigation plants, and in storage pending and subsequent to fumigation. This wastage results from the fact that Mexican cotton is inadequately hooped with iron over an insufficient wrapper of coarse sisal fiber netting. On arrival at port of entry but a few shreds of this netting remain, and the bales become mere ragged masses of cotton of such character that the wastage in handling is constant and enormous. In view of the fact that Mexico is now known to be infested with the pink boll worm, this wastage adds a very large and new element of risk.

The object of this letter is to bring this state of affairs to your attention as an exporter of Mexican cotton and to advise you that a continuation of the present system of inadequate baling may necessitate the requirement that all Mexican cotton offered for entry into the United States shall be so baled as to prevent wastage in handling. Before taking this step the board desires to give you an opportunity of inducing, if possible, growers of Mexican cotton to improve their method of baling or of yourselves making provision for the re-covering or rebaling of such cotton at the place of export. I shall be glad to have you advise me fully as to what can be done to improve the situation described.

Yours very truly,

C. L. Marlatt,
Chairman of Board.

IMPORTATION OF BURLAP OR OTHER FABRIC WHICH HAS BEEN USED FOR WRAPPING COTTON.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
FEDERAL HORTICULTURAL BOARD,
Washington, D. C., February 20, 1917.

DEAR SIRS: Amendment No. 8 to the Rules and Regulations Governing the Importation of Cotton into the United States (Regulation 15, effective January 1, 1917) brings burlap and other fabrics which have been used for wrapping cotton under the restrictions of these cotton regulations. This action was necessitated by the risk that such fabrics might harbor and be the means of entry of the pink boll worm of cotton and other cotton pests, both on account of the adhering cotton and also the likelihood of such pests getting into the wrappings themselves and being conveyed by them.

This regulation, with required form of certificate, is quoted below:

REGULATION 15. IMPORTATION OF BURLAP OR OTHER FABRIC WHICH HAS BEEN USED FOR WRAPPING COTTON SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS.

Burlap or other fabric, under whatever name or trade designation, which has been used for wrapping cotton and to which cotton is adhering shall be subject to all requirements of these regulations: *Provided*, That material covered by this regulation which has been freed from all adhering cotton and disinfected by a process approved by the Federal Horticultural Board may be admitted without further disinfection: *And provided further*, That secondhand or used burlap or other fabrics of the kinds ordinarily employed in wrapping cotton but which have not been so used, and American cotton bagging, commonly known as coarse gunny, which has been used only to cover cotton grown in the United States, may be admitted without inspection if the invoice be accompanied by a certificate in the form indicated below, a copy of which shall be affixed to each parcel. Material covered by this regulation which has been disinfected under the supervision of an inspector of the Department of Agriculture, as required by Regulation 7, and material admitted without disinfection under the foregoing provisos, may be distributed, forwarded, or shipped without the restrictions prescribed by Regulations 8, 9, and 10.

CERTIFICATE OF SHIPPER.

Name of transportation company by which shipment is made.....

.....

Consignor.....
Name. Address.

Port of departure.....

Consignee.....
Name. Address.

Port of entry.....

I hereby certify that the material in this shipment (has not been previously used as cotton wrappers or containers) (is American cotton bagging, commonly known as coarse gunny, and has been used only to cover cotton grown in the United States):

Kind of product (such as burlap or other fabric).....

Number of packages or bales.....

.....
Signature of shipper.

.....
Business of shipper.

.....
Address of shipper.

This regulation does not apply to new or unused stock.

A circular letter of this board (HB-67) was issued October 28, 1916, giving general information on the subject of permits and other conditions of entry of the fabrics

covered by this regulation. The provisos to this regulation admit certain classes of these fabrics without disinfection or subsequent restrictions when properly certified. In view of some questions which have arisen, it seems desirable to issue particular instructions in relation to the selection and assembling of the different classes of the fabrics covered in this regulation so that full advantage can be taken of the classes which are admitted without disinfection.

The first proviso of Regulation 15 has relation to such cotton wrappings as have been freed from all adhering cotton and disinfected by a process approved by the Federal Horticultural Board. This cleaning and disinfection is to be carried out in the country of origin. To take advantage of this proviso a full description of the method of cleaning and disinfection must be submitted to the board and the prior approval of the board of such method must be obtained.

The second proviso covers (1) the entry of secondhand or used burlap or other fabrics of the kind ordinarily employed in wrapping cotton but which have not been so used, and (2) American cotton bagging, commonly known as coarse gunny, which has been used only to cover cotton grown in the United States.

Under this proviso, therefore, the entry of secondhand cotton wrappings without fumigation is strictly limited to American cotton bagging, commonly known as coarse gunny, which has been used only to cover cotton grown in the United States. The entry without disinfection of other secondhand or used burlaps or other fabrics of the kinds ordinarily employed in wrapping cotton is strictly limited to such fabrics as have never been used as cotton wrappings. Certification in both instances is required.

In the case of American cotton bagging or coarse gunny which has been used only to cover cotton grown in the United States, disinfection may not be required if there appear attached to such gunny patches of the finer burlaps or gunnies when it is apparent that such finer materials are strictly in the nature of patches and represent such an inconsiderable proportion as not to affect the character of the bale as a whole. This ruling does not apply, however, to bales of a mixed character which contain both American cotton bagging or coarse gunny which has been used only to cover cotton grown in the United States, and the finer burlaps and gunnies whether these latter have or have not been used as cotton wrappings. It is deemed thoroughly impracticable to determine by external inspection with any degree of accuracy the history of the finer gunnies in such mixed bales, and the disinfection of such bales will be required.

Importers are, therefore, advised that the classes of burlaps, gunnies, etc., which may be entered without disinfection must be baled separately to secure the advantage of such entry. The classes of burlaps or other fabrics referred to may be listed as follows:

(1) Cotton wrappings which have been freed from all adhering cotton and disinfected abroad by a process approved by the Federal Horticultural Board. When properly certified, disinfection not required.

(2) Secondhand or used burlaps or other fabrics of the kinds ordinarily employed in wrapping cotton but which have not been so used. When properly certified, disinfection not required.

(3) American cotton bagging, commonly known as coarse gunny, which has been used only to cover cotton grown in the United States. When properly certified, disinfection not required.

(4) All cotton wrappings not included in classes (1) and (3). Disinfection required.

In relation to the certification of cotton wrappings of the first three of these classes offered for entry under the provisos of this regulation, importers have been relieved by an administrative order of the necessity of affixing to each separate bale or parcel a copy of the certificate which is required to accompany the invoice. Furthermore, should the required certificate fail to accompany the invoice, and the shipment in question should on inspection appear to properly fall under the first or second proviso, such shipment may be entered without disinfection upon the filing with the collector of customs of a bond in the amount of $5,000, or in an amount equal to the invoice value of the cotton, if such value be less than $5,000, with approved sureties, such bond not to be released until the certificate required in regulation 15 covering the shipment shall have been received and delivered to the collector of customs.

Yours very truly, C. L. MARLATT, *Chairman of Board.*

LIST OF CURRENT QUARANTINE AND OTHER RESTRICTIVE ORDERS.

QUARANTINE ORDERS.

The numbers assigned to these quarantines indicate merely the chronological order of issuance of both domestic and foreign quarantines in one numerical series. The quarantine numbers missing in this list are quarantines which have either been superseded or revoked. For convenience of reference these quarantines are here classified as domestic and foreign.

DOMESTIC QUARANTINES.

Date palms.—Quarantine No. 6, with regulations: Prohibits the interstate movement of date palms or date-palm offshoots from Riverside County, Cal., east of the San Bernardino meridian; Imperial County, Cal.; Yuma, Maricopa, and Pinal Counties, Ariz.; and Webb County, Tex.; except in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed in the Notice of Quarantine, on account of two injurious scale insects, to wit, the Parlatoria scale (*Parlatoria blanchardi*) and the Phoenicococcus scale (*Phoenicococcus marlatti*).

Cotton seed and cottonseed hulls.—Quarantine No. 9: Prohibits the importation of cotton seed and cottonseed hulls from the Territory of Hawaii on account of the pink bollworm.

Hawaiian fruits.—Quarantine No. 13, as amended, with regulations: Prohibits the importation from Hawaii of any fruit or vegetable upon which the Mediterranean fruit fly or the melon fly breeds, or which, from proximity of growth or the requirements of packing and shipping, may carry infection, including:

Alligator pears, bananas, carambolas, Chinese ink berries, Chinese oranges, Chinese plums, coffee berries, cucumbers, damson plums, eugenias, figs, grapes, grapefruit, green peppers, guavas, kamani nuts, kumquats, limes, loquats, mangoes, mock oranges, mountain apples, melons, Natal or Kafir plums, oranges, papayas, peaches, persimmons, pineapples, prickly pears, rose apples, star apples, string beans, squashes, and tomatoes, except that bananas and pineapples may be moved from the Territory of Hawaii in manner or method or under conditions prescribed in the regulations of the Secretary.

Sugar cane.—Quarantine No. 16: Prohibits the importation from Hawaii and Porto Rico of living canes of sugar cane, or cuttings or parts thereof, on account of certain injurious insects and fungous diseases of the sugar cane known to occur in these Territories.

Cotton.—Quarantine No. 23, as revised, with regulations: Prohibits the movement of cotton from Hawaii to the continental United States except in accordance with the regulations prescribed in the Notice of Quarantine.

Gipsy moth and brown-tail moth.—Quarantine No. 25, with regulations: Prohibits the movement interstate to any point outside of the quarantined towns and territory, or from points in the generally infested area to points in the lightly infested area, of the plants and the plant products listed therein, until such plants and plant products have been inspected by the United States Department of Agriculture and certified to be free from the gipsy moth or the brown-tail moth, or both, as the case may be. This quarantine covers portions of the New England States.

On account of the likelihood of carriage of gipsy moth with stone and quarry products, these products have been placed under quarantine and regulations similar to

those governing the movement interstate of plants and plant products listed in the preceding paragraph. This quarantine is under the authority given in the act of Congress making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture approved August 11, 1916, and is administered by the Federal Horticultural Board.

FOREIGN QUARANTINES.

Irish potato.—Quarantine No. 3: Prohibits the importation of the common or Irish potato from Newfoundland; the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon; Great Britain, including England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland; Germany; and Austria-Hungary, on account of the disease known as potato wart.

Mexican fruits.—Quarantine No. 5, as amended: Prohibits the importation of oranges, sweet limes, grapefruit, mangoes, achras sapotes, peaches, guavas, and plums from the Republic of Mexico, on account of the Mexican fruit fly.

Five-leafed pines, Ribes and Grossularia.—Quarantine No. 7, as amended: Prohibits the importation from each and every country of Europe and Asia, and from the Dominion of Canada and Newfoundland of all five-leafed pines, and from the Dominion of Canada and Newfoundland of all species and varieties of the genera *Ribes* and *Grossularia*, on account of the white-pine blister rust.

Cotton seed and cottonseed hulls.—Quarantine No. 8, as amended, with regulations: Prohibits the importation from any foreign locality and country, excepting only the locality of the Imperial Valley, in the State of Lower California, Mexico, of cotton seed (including seed cotton) of all species and varieties and cottonseed hulls, on account of the pink bollworm.

Seeds of avocado or alligator pear.—Quarantine No. 12: Prohibits the importation from Mexico and the countries of Central America of the seeds of the avocado or alligator pear, on account of the avocado weevil.

Sugar cane.—Quarantine No. 15: Prohibits the importation from all foreign countries of living canes of sugar cane, or cuttings or parts thereof, on account of certain injurious insects and fungous diseases of the sugar cane occurring in such countries. There are no restrictions on the entry of such materials into Hawaii and Porto Rico

Citrus nursery stock.—Quarantine No. 19: Prohibits the importation from all foreign localities and countries of all citrus nursery stock, including buds, scions, and seeds, on account of the citrus canker and other dangerous citrus diseases. The term "citrus" as used in this quarantine includes all plants belonging to the subfamily or tribe *Citratæ*.

European pines.—Quarantine No. 20: Prohibits the importation from all European countries and localities of all pines not already excluded by quarantine on account of the European pine-shoot moth (*Evetria buoliana*).

Indian corn or maize and related plants.—Quarantine No. 24: Prohibits the importation from southeastern Asia (including India, Siam, Indo-China, and China), Malayan Archipelago, Australia, New Zealand, Oceania, Philippine Islands, Formosa, Japan, and adjacent islands, in the raw or unmanufactured state, of seed and all other portions of Indian corn or maize (*Zea mays* L.), and the closely related plants, including all species of Teosinte (*Euchlaena*), Job's tears (*Coix*), *Polytoca*, *Chionachne*, and *Sclerachne*, on account of the downy mildews and *Physoderma* diseases of Indian corn.

OTHER RESTRICTIVE ORDERS.

Nursery stock.—In addition to nursery stock, the entry of which was brought under regulation with the passage of the Plant Quarantine Act of August 20, 1912, orders have been issued by the Secretary of Agriculture regulating the entry of potatoes, avocados, and cotton, under the authority contained in section 5 of this act.

Irish potato.—The order of December 22, 1913, covering admission of foreign potatoes under restriction, prohibits the importation of potatoes from all foreign countries, except under permit and in accordance with the other provisions of the regulations issued under said order, on account of injurious potato diseases and insect pests.

Avocado or alligator pear.—The order of February 27, 1914, prohibits the importation from Mexico and the countries of Central America of the fruits of the avocado or alligator pear, except under permit and in accordance with the other provisions of the regulations issued under said order, on account of the avocado weevil. Entry is permitted only through the port of New York and is limited to the large, thick-skinned variety of the avocado. The importation of the small purple, thin-skinned variety of the fruit of the avocado, and of avocado nursery stock under 18 months of age, is prohibited.

Cotton.—The order of April 27, 1915, prohibits the importation of cotton from all foreign countries and localities, except under permit and in accordance with the other provisions of the regulations issued under said order, on account of injurious insects, including the pink bollworm. These regulations provide for the unrestricted entry of cotton grown in and imported from the Imperial Valley, in the State of Lower California, in Mexico.

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